[English]

ISD/STD/PCOs at Tourist Centres of Rajasthan

2498. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA :
SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH BHATI :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether ISD/STD/PCOs facilities have been provided at all the tourist centres in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the places where the said facility is not available; and

(e) the time by which the above facility is likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Sir, STD/ISD/PCO facilities have been provided at all tourist centres except Sariska and Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary.

(b) The STD/ISD/PCO facilities have been provided at Pushkar, Ajmer, Sawai Madhopur, Mount Abu, Udaipur, Jaipur, Chittorgarh, Jaisalmer and Ramdeora.

(c) and (d). STD/ISD PCOs at Sariska and Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary could not be provided due to non-availability of eligible applicants. However, an eligible applicant for Sariska has been selected recently.

(e) By November, 1996. For Bharatpur Bird Sancturaly, it is subject to availability of eligible applicant.

[Translation]

Flight Safety Week

2499. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to observe "Flight Safety Week" for ensuring air travel more safe and convenient in the country;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) whether his Ministry have formulated a code of conduct for all air services; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b). A "Safety Week" was organised by Directorate General of Civil Aviation from 8.7.1996 to 14.7.1996 to generate awareness on matters relating to the safety of aircraft operations including operational, engineering, commercial, ground handling aspects; monitoring of air traffic services; serviceability of communication and navigation facilities etc.

(c) and (d). Operation of all Civil Air Services are governed by the Aircraft Act 1934 and the rules framed thereunder.

[English]

Inclusion of Communities in Central OBCs List

2500. SHRI CHURCHILL ALEMAO : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Commission for Backward Classes has completed its survey to identify and separate the creamy layer from Bhandari, Kharvi, Nathjogi, Gosavi, Dhobi and at communities so that they can be included in the Central OBCs Lists; and

(b) if not, the time by which the report of the Commission is likely to be tabled?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) and (b). Question of Excluding the socially advanced persons/sections of backward Classes known as creamy layer has nothing to do with the process of consideration of the request of a caste/community in the Central List of OBCs by the National Backward Classes Commission. The Commission has submitted its recommendation in respect of the caste Kharvi, Nathjogi, Gosavi and Dhobi in respect of the State of Goa which is under the consideration of the Government. As regards the Bhandari caste, the Commission has requested the State Government of Goa and the State Backward Classes Commission to complete their survey to enable NCBC to take a decision thereafter.

Use of Iron Ore in SAIL

2501. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the average use of Indian iron ore in a year in the plants of SAIL;

(b) the extent to which it is used in comparison to export quality of iron in a year;

(c) whether Government propose to ban export of iron ore in the interest of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BRIENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) and (b). SAIL plants and its subsidiaries use nearly 18 to 19 million tonnes of iron ore in a year. Almost entire requirement is met from its captive sources, production from which is not used for exports.

(c) and (d). At present there is no proposal under consideration of the Government for banning export of iron ore.